THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) Sometimes there have been demands from farmers for parity in the prices of agricultural goods and industrial goods. The Government, in March, 1980, amended the terms of reference of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). According to these revised terms of reference, ACP, while formulating its recommendations on price policy, takes into account, among other things, the changes in the terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors which includes not only the prices paid by the farmers for purchasing inputs but also the changes in the prices paid by them for commodities purchased for consumption purposes.

People living in slums in Delhi

3163. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 2 million people are living in the slums in Delhi;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to provide potable water and sanitary facilities for them; and

(c) in view of the spreading off cholera and gastro-entritis in these areas will the Government ensure that these facilities are provided on a war footing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Non-payment of wages to Contractor's Workers of IOC (AOD) in Digboi, Assam

3164. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum dated 22nd July, 1988 has been received from Mineral Oil Workers' Union (CITU), Digboi, Assam regarding nonpayment of wages to Contractor's workers since January, 1988 to May, 1988;

(b) whether the principal employer—the IOC (AOD), Digboi has assured the Labour Enforcement Officer that the unpaid Bills of the contractors are sufficient to clear the dues of the contractor's workers;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the above Principal employer had paid the pending Bill of the contractor despite has assurance to LEO that it would not be paid until the workers' wages are cleared; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to arrange for payment of wages to the contractor's workers of IOC (AOD), Digboi?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Missing of fishing vessels

3165. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fishing vessel-King Horong II, chartered by Delhi based fishing company disappeared mysteriously from somewhere in Gulf of Mannar about two months ago; if so, whether any inquiry has been held in to its disappearance, what are the results thereof; and

(b) whether trained deck and engine personnel of Central Institute of Fisheries and National Engineering training has submitted any memorandum demanding any probe; if so, action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) It has been reported that the foreign fishing vessel Kind Horong No. II chartered by M/s. Blue Chrome Ltd. New Delhi met with an accident on 20th May, 1988 in Gulf of Mannar outside Exclusive Economic Zone. No enquiry has been held in the matter.

(b) A memarandum has been received from All India CIFNET Trained Youths Welfare Association, Madras recently. The Indian Chartering company has been asked to settle the claims of the families of the Indian crew.

Transfer of Branch Manager, NCCF

3166. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Branch Manager, NCCF, Bombay Branch was transferred to Delhi in 1983 because of serious complaints against him;

(b) whether it is also a fact that he was again transferred from Bombay to Ahmedabad in early 1987 on his alleged involvement in scandalous grocery purchase of Akola;

(c) whether it is also a fact that he allegedly organised a sale deal of 2500 MT black Matype; and

(d) if so, what are the considerations for posting him at Bombay in view of such a record?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The officer referred to in the question was transferred in September, 1985 to the Head Office. The transfer was not because of any complaint against him at that time.

(b) Yes, Sir. He was transferred to Ahmedabad for his lack of supervision as Regional Manager in the purchases at Akola.

(c) and (d) He has again been posted as Branch Manager, Bombay in April, 1988 on medical grounds. There is nothing to indicate any irregularity in the sale of 2500 MTs of Matype on his part.

Confiscated goods sold by NCCF, Calcutta

3167. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that non-Controlled Textiles worth Rs. 191.00 lakhs and confiscated goods worth Rs .82.00 lakhs were shown as supplied by Calcutta Branch of NCCF to the Cooperative Societies of the Eastern Region in 1982-83 but the transactions have not actually been entered into cash books thereby proving Branch Manager's complicity in this clandestine transaction; and

(b) whether any enquiry has been held to fix the resonsibility of the then BM|RM (East); if so, the findings thereof and follow up action taken therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) NCCF have reported that procedural irregularities have been committed only in the supply of non-controlled Textiles and not in respect of confiscated goods.

(b) One Assistant Manager of the Calcutta Branch has been placed under suspension. Investigations have been initiated by the CBI. NCCF have separately taken legal action for recovery of its dues.